

## The Knoxville Independent

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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

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BAD CONDITIONS AT CAPITAL

Official Report Shows Washington

Workers Always on Verge of

Economic Distress.

The capital city of the richest nation on earth reveals a "shocking state of economic indecency," according to a report issued by the federal bureau of labor statistics, following a study of wages and the cost of living in the District of Columbia.

"The pinch of economic distress among a large proportion of families," says the bureau's report, "is also clearly indicated by the fact that almost one-third of the families, both white and negro, finished the year of 1918 with deficits. Whether these deficits were due in part to the extraordinary price advances of 1918 or whether they represent the chronic condition of so many families cannot be determined from the facts gathered in the survey."

"But in 1918 only 520 of the 2,110 families studied, or 24.6 per cent, were able to show a surplus; the best that 964, or 45.7 per cent, could do was to come out even, and 626, or 29.7 per cent, wound up the year with deficits."

The bureau sums up the whole situation by saying: "Most of the families in the low income groups lived literally from hand to mouth. About the best they could hope for was to come out even."

But the survey failed to show the causes for all this. And official Washington is considering a supplementary investigation to find out why these things are true.

URGE LABOR CLAUSES

BE PUT IN CONTRACTS.

The inclusion in all government contracts of clauses specifying the hours of labor and wages of employees was strongly urged upon the war industries board by Samuel Gompers and the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor.

The labor leaders also propose that labor representatives be placed on all advisory boards and committees as a means of promoting co-operation between the government, employers and workmen for war production.



1—Wreckage of two German airplanes and bodies of the pilots, brought down on the west front. 2—Gen. Sir Edmund Allenby, commander of the British forces in Palestine, who has taken Beersheba and Gaza. 3—Captured German flamethrower or liquid fire projector. 4—British engineers laying a wire road across the Sinai desert for the advance on Gaza and Jerusalem.

## NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Kerensky and His Government Overthrown by Maximalists Led by Lenin.

PRO-GERMANS RULE IN RUSSIA

Immediate Peace First on Their Program—Retreat of Italians Continues—British Take Highly Important Passchendaele Ridge—America's War Mission to Paris.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Kerensky and the provisional government of Russia have fallen; the Maximalists led by Nikolai Lenin, pro-German agitator, are in the saddle; the premier has fled and five or more of the members of his cabinet are under arrest; immediate peace with the central powers will be offered by the extreme radicals in control. Such is the startling news that comes from the Slav republic, so called. Chaos exists there and a long continued reign of anarchy is the prospect.

The only hopeful feature of the situation is that, as Ambassador Bakmeteff says, the revolt is a revolt of the few against the many. The Maximalists control Petrograd and probably the fortress of Kronstadt, but they have all Russia to reckon with, and especially the Cossacks, who have no sympathy with the plan to make a separate peace with the central powers. M. Bakmeteff feels sure that the majority of the Russians who followed Kerensky are with the provisional government heart and soul, understand that Russia's freedom can be assured only by the defeat of Germany by the allies, and will fight to the end. The spirit prevailing in Petrograd, he asserts, is not representative of the Russian spirit as a whole.

Loyal Women Fight the Rebels.

Of all the armed forces in and about the capital it appears that the woman's battalion alone remained loyal to the government. It was stationed at the winter palace and when that building was attacked by the cruiser Aurora and the guns of the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul, it fought as bravely as possible until overwhelmed and compelled to surrender. The battle lasted four hours and was spectacular. The rebels brought up armored cars to aid in overcoming the resistance of the heroic women. There was no chance to call other loyal troops to Petrograd, for the leaders of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates had seized the posts and telegraphs.

The rebel congress was convened Wednesday night, the officers elected including Lenin and Leon Trotsky. Several proclamations were issued, one of them stating the program of the new authority to be:

"First—The offer of an immediate democratic peace.

"Second—The immediate handing over of large proprietorial lands to the peasants.

"Third—The transmission of all authority to the council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates.

"Fourth—The honest convocation of a constitutional assembly."

It is believed in London that Kerensky will re-establish the provisional government in Moscow and that the Soviet will not be strong enough to hold out long against him. For the present, however, the pro-Germans have the upper hand.

Italians Retreat to the Livenza.

As had been expected, Count Cadorna did not attempt to make a long stand on the Tagliamento river line against the on-sweeping Austro-German armies, but fell back last week to the Livenza, twelve to eighteen miles west. The enemy followed closely, and the prospect was that the Italians would speedily be forced back to the Piave, where their main armies already were being established. Cadorna issued an order including in the zone of military operations all territory north and east of the Po and Mincio rivers, so he may consider the possibility of carrying his retreat much farther than the Piave. Whether this will be necessary evidently depends on the speed with which France, Great Britain and America can get men, guns and supplies to the Italian front. Guns and supplies especially are called for by the Italians.

The victory of the Germans in Italy will be far from complete unless they can capture Venice. The German commanders already have hinted that they will attack that city from the air, and naval operations against it are more than possible in the immediate future. As was said before, the invasion served to bring about a swift union of all factions in Italy, and the government, while realizing the extreme gravity of the situation, is confident that the enemy will fail to accomplish their military object as they have their political object. The Italian armies are maintaining order and discipline and are cheerful, and the rear guards are fighting valiantly to retard the advance of the Teutons.

As in Russia, formerly, so in Italy, the farther the invaders penetrate, the more dangerous becomes their own position. They are moving away from their bases of supply, and are being cut off by the Italians in their retreat. Cadorna, on the other hand, gains the protection of rivers larger than the Tagliamento, of many canals and of numerous railroads that are able to furnish all the transportation his contracted front needs.

British Gain Passchendaele Ridge.

Sir Douglas Haig's periodical drive in Flanders, which is becoming a regular weekly feature, accomplished most important results last week, when the Canadians succeeded in taking the village of Passchendaele and the ridge of the same name which dominates the country to the east. The drive was made under most adverse conditions, the ground being flooded by torrential rains, but the British barrage fire was perfect and the infantry followed it so closely that the Germans in their concrete dugouts and pill boxes were stormed before they had time to get into action. This advance brought Roulers under the guns of the British, and their aviators also began bombing that town with deadly effect.

Following up the retiring crown prince's army north of the Aisne, the French reached the south bank of the Ailette, but the Germans maintained their line on the other side of that stream by heavy and continuous artillery fire. Elsewhere on the French front all enemy attacks were successfully repulsed.

General Allenby reported that his troops in Palestine advanced beyond Beersheba with splendid dash and endurance and that on Wednesday he captured Gaza from the Turks.

American Patrol Boat Torpedoed.

The German U-boats found one American victim in the patrol boat Alcedo, which was torpedoed and sunk in British waters, going down in four minutes after being struck. Lieut. John T. Melvin and 20 men were lost. The Alcedo was formerly the private yacht of G. W. Childs Drexel of Philadelphia. She carried a crew of seven officers and 85 men. The American merchant steamship Rochester also was destroyed by a torpedo, at least four men losing their lives. An American freighter arriving at an Atlantic port reported that her gun crew sank a German submarine that attempted to torpedo her in the Mediterranean.

In general, the U-boats had a poor week, the British admiralty report showing that only eight British vessels of more than 1,000 tons had been sunk, and four smaller vessels. This is the smallest number of victims for any week since unrestricted submarine warfare began.

Von Hertling May Not Last.

Count von Hertling isn't likely to be German chancellor for very long, for unless he yields to the demands of the radicals, they intend to introduce a resolution of lack of confidence as soon as the reichstag reconvenes on November 22. The count seems to have fallen under complete control of the militarists and junkers and is now threatening the radicals with a military dictatorship unless they drop their claim that one of their number should be appointed vice chancellor. The reichstag majority, with which the count solemnly announced the other day he would now work in harmony, is in danger of breaking up, with the result of a union of the national liberals and the conservatives. Such a coalition would have a bare majority and would be subjected to constant attack by the Socialists. The prospect of a political truce, it is admitted, is remote.

The Budapest papers announce that the Austro-Hungarian Ausgleich, or agreement of the two kingdoms to unite under one emperor though having separate parliaments, will be renewed provisionally for two years. The alliance, originally signed in 1867, is supposed to be subject to renewal every ten years.

Japan and America Agree.

Viscount Ishii's mission to the United States has been successful and Japan is guaranteed her price for more active participation in the war. The American government has agreed to recognize Japan's special interests in China and to permit the shipment to Japan of the supplies of iron and steel that she needs. In return, Japan will furnish a great amount of tonnage for transport purposes, will get into action her warships, numbering about a hundred and already mobilized, and probably will send an army to Europe. Italy is asking that Japanese troops be called over to help repel the invading Teutons.

Though Japan's special interests in China are to be recognized because of contiguity, both nations agree to maintain the open door and the territorial sovereignty of China.

Socialists Lose in Elections.

Emperor William met a notable defeat in the United States last Tuesday, when in Chicago and New York the Socialists were thoroughly whipped at the polls. Supporting the Socialist nominees for judges in Chicago and for mayor and other city officials in New York, were all the forces of pro-Germanism, pacifism and disloyalty, and though they cast a disgracefully large vote, the defeat administered to them was decisive.

These elections were looked upon, and rightly, as a test of the loyalty of the two largest cities in the country. Most of the Socialist candidates were openly anti-war men and some of them in their pre-election utterances came dangerously near the treason mark. Hence the victory of loyalty and patriotism is cause for genuine rejoicing.

John F. Hylan, Tammany Democrat, was elected mayor of New York and the state gave a large majority in favor of woman suffrage. In Ohio, however, the women lost.

House Heads U. S. War Mission.

Upon their arrival in a British port the administration announced the names of the members of the American war commission sent to take part in the great conference of the allies in Paris. Col. E. M. House is the chairman and spokesman for the president on questions concerning the general conduct of the war. The other members are Admiral W. S. Benson, chief of naval operations; Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, chief of staff; Oscar T. Crosby, assistant secretary of the treasury; Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the war trade board; Bainbridge Colby, member of the Shipping board; Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, representative of Food Administrator Hoover; Thomas N. Perkins, member of the priority board, and Gordon Auchincloss, chief secretary of the commission.

Secretary Lansing issued a statement that makes it clear that the allies realize that many of their reverses have been due to lack of team work, and that one of the chief aims of the conference will be to bring about unity of action. For its part, the United States seeks to determine just how its man power and material resources can be used to greatest advantage to defeat the common enemy. Mr. Lansing laid especial emphasis on the fact that the conference is a war conference and nothing else. The administration is not expecting an early peace, and is making all preparations for a long conflict.

The telephone girls of Boston and vicinity have formed a trade union and have secured shorter hours and more pay, both of which were badly needed. It does not make much difference what kind of work one is engaged in. The only way to improve wages and conditions is for all the workers in that occupation to get together in a bona fide trade union.

## The Making of the Flag

by Wilbur D. Nesbitt  
Author of  
"Your Flag and My Flag"

How did we make the flag?

By rule?

By compass, and square, and line?  
With pattern, and thread, and the sempster's tool,  
To follow the plain design?  
Was it only the lore that the draftsmen knew  
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue?

How did we make the flag?

Not all

By measuring stitch and seam;  
For part of it came from a country call  
And part of it is a dream—  
Is a vision that led brave souls aright,  
And gave us the red, and the blue, and white.  
How did we make the flag?

In peace

We fashioned it fold on fold;  
In war it was blend with the grim caprice  
The drums in their summons rolled.  
'Twas the courage alike of the quick and dead  
That gave us the blue, and the white, and red.  
How did we make the flag?

'Twas thus

It came to its grace and worth;  
Through all that is good in the souls of us  
The banner has had its birth;  
'Twas the holler strength of the purpose true  
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue.  
Thus have we made the flag?

Ah, no!

By colors that will not fade,  
By sinuous sweep and by deathless glow,  
'Tis us that the flag has made!  
And it whispers today to each star-told state:  
'You must hold me high and must keep me great!'

(Copyright, 1917, by W. D. Nesbitt.)

## "MADE IN AMERICA"

It's Good Enough  
For Me!

Resolve today that everything you consume must be the product of American labor.

Tell your wife to ask the merchants for American made products only and to refuse to buy anything not "Made In America."

There is no good reason for sending your money to Europe. Keep it at home and buy better and cheaper products.

Send Us Your Job Printing.

We do job printing at fair prices.

Call for Union Label Shoes.

Value of a Union.

The telephone girls of Boston and vicinity have formed a trade union and have secured shorter hours and more pay, both of which were badly needed. It does not make much difference what kind of work one is engaged in. The only way to improve wages and conditions is for all the workers in that occupation to get together in a bona fide trade union.

Washington.—German military authorities in Belgium have taken steps to keep a closer watch on young Belgians and also to seize woolen goods. The Belgian Legation has word that the Germans posted notices in Brussels at the beginning of August saying all young men of 17 years of age and over must submit to control of the German commanding officer. Parents and directors of educational institutions are held responsible for the enforcement of the order.

Send us your job printing.  
We do job printing at fair prices.